

Substance of Interview

Discussed proposed amendment to delete the without consideration of a length of time limitation in the claims. Applicant argued that deleting this negative limitation would overcome the 112 first paragraph rejection to reduce issues for appeal, and argued that the limitation is positively recited by the closed button producing a close signal "whenever" the button is actuated by the user. The examiner disagrees. Since applicant is still arguing the without consideration of length of time limitation is in the claim and overcomes the prior art, this amendment would not reduce or clarify issues. Further, the "whenever" in claim 1 being without consideration of time is still contradicted by the changing function after a predetermined time period in claim 7. Therefore, the amendment would not moot the 112 issue.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin C. Holloway, III whose telephone number is (571) 272-3058. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Zimmerman, can be reached on (571) 272-3059.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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